

Local Gasoline Tax Fund

Loudoun County began the collection of a two percent local gasoline tax in January 1989. Initially, gasoline tax funds were administered through the Loudoun County Transportation District Commission (LCTDC). In January 1990, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors dissolved the LCTDC and elected to join the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC). Local gasoline tax collections are now directed to a special Loudoun account at NVTC and transferred to the County as revenue.

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors adopted an initial policy governing the distribution of Gasoline Tax revenue in 1989. This policy included the requirement that \$500,000 be set aside annually to provide local matching funds required for participation in the State's Revenue Sharing transportation program. The Board subsequently increased the matching contribution by \$100,000 to allow for participation in the State's Supplemental Revenue Sharing program. In addition, the 1989 policy stipulated that 20% of total annual Gasoline Tax revenue be allocated for use by the Town of Leesburg on significant transportation projects. In the FY 06 budget, the County recognized that the Town of Purcellville maintains its local roads. The Board provided 2% of total annual Gas Tax revenues to be allocated for use on transportation projects within the Town.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors modified the original policy by establishing a funding formula for the Local Gasoline Tax Fund's annual budget. This policy requires that Fund revenue be allocated according to the following formula: 80% for capital projects, 15% for transportation-related projects, and 5% for administration of the County's transportation system. The Board also implemented an application process for community organizations requesting use of County Gasoline Tax revenue.

The Board of Supervisors' consideration of the Local Gasoline Tax Fund budget typically occurs in two phases. Prior to the development of the County Administrator's Draft Fiscal Plan, County staff presents proposals received during the annual application process to the Board's Transportation/Land Use Committee, along with revenue estimates for the upcoming biennium. Following its review, the Committee provides direction to staff on those applications it supports recommending to the full Board of Supervisors for funding. The draft Local Gasoline Tax Fund budget is subsequently included in the Proposed Fiscal Plan, and consideration by the Board occurs in concert with the development of the adopted budget.

The following pages reflect the FY 07/08 Adopted Local Gasoline Tax Fund budget. Since the adoption of the FY 06 budget, the Board of Supervisors has approved supplemental appropriations totaling \$500,000 as additional local match to extra State Revenue Sharing funds and \$61,522 to the Virginia Regional Transit Association to cover the loss of State funding.

Current projections indicate that the County will have Gasoline Tax revenue totaling \$5.20 million in FY 07 and \$5.4 million in FY 08, plus \$2,100,180 in undesignated carryover at the end of FY 06. Recent fluctuations in gasoline prices and sales volume, as well as the historic variability in annual yield, indicate that current estimates may be subject to revision. The Transportation/Land Use Committee typically revisits fund revenue estimates periodically during the course of the year.

	FY 05 Actual	FY 06 Adopted	FY 06 Projected	FY 07 Adopted	FY 08 Provisional
Gas Tax Revenue	\$5,485,615	\$4,300,000	\$6,142,243	\$5,200,000	\$5,400,000
Interest	361,395	175,000	200,000	300,000	300,000
Prior Year Carryover	1,427,213	1,239,077	2,911,087	3,242,423	1,252,488
Close out projects	8,033	0	14,692	0	0
Other (Bond Proceeds)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Revenue:	\$7,282,256	\$5,714,077	\$9,268,022	\$8,742,423	\$6,952,488
Budgeted Projects	\$4,241,169	\$5,464,077	\$5,464,077	\$7,489,935	\$6,648,541
Supplemental Projects	<u>130,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>561,522</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Projects	\$4,371,169	\$5,464,077	\$6,025,599	\$7,489,935	\$6,648,541
Surplus/Deficit	\$2,911,087	\$250,000	\$3,242,423	\$1,252,488	\$303,947

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FY 07/08 LOCAL GASOLINE TAX FUND BUDGET			
Applicant/Sponsoring Organization	FY 06 Adopted	FY 07 Adopted	FY 08 Provisional
CAPITAL PROJECTS (BOS Policy 80%):			
Town of Leesburg (20%)	\$895,000	\$1,040,000	\$1,080,000
Town of Purcellville (2%)	89,500	104,000	108,000
Purcellville-Round Hill Trail	40,000	0	0
Revenue Sharing	500,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Revenue Sharing Supplement	100,000	100,000	100,000
Traffic Operations Fund	350,000	350,000	350,000
Bikeway & Pedestrian Facilities Contingency	250,000	250,000	250,000
Leesburg Park & Ride Garage	1,300,781	250,000	0
Office of Transportation – NuMetrics Traffic Counters	0	30,000	0
Spot Road Improvement Projects	0	500,000	750,000
Route 7 East Traffic Operations Improvement Project	0	1,142,243	0
SUBTOTAL, CAPITAL PROJECTS:	\$3,525,281	\$4,766,243	\$3,638,000
Percent of Total Expenditures	65%	62%	53%
TRANSPORTATION/TRANSIT (15%)			
Leesburg Safety Shuttle	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Commuter Bus - 24 bus fleet	1,343,280	1,682,089	1,984,781
Adaptive Recreation Transportation	63,000	86,000	94,900
VA Regional Transit	337,838	694,711	642,948
Every Citizen Has an Opportunity (ECHO)	23,900	25,400	26,500
American Red Cross	85,756	98,619	113,412
Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers	0	35,000	40,000
SUBTOTAL, TRANSPORTATION	\$1,864,774	\$2,636,819	\$2,917,541
Percent of Total Expenditures	34%	40%	42%
ADMINISTRATIVE (5%)			
Rideshare Grant Match	\$43,201	\$54,800	\$59,000
Commuter Bus Promotion & Advertising	10,000	10,000	10,000
Dulles Area Transportation Association	6,000	6,000	6,000
No. Virginia Transportation Commission	14,821	16,073	18,000
SUBTOTAL, ADMINISTRATIVE:	\$74,022	\$86,873	\$93,000
Percent of Total Expenditures	1%	1%	1%
TOTAL DESIGNATED EXPENDITURES	\$5,464,077	\$7,489,935	\$6,648,541
UNDESIGNATED	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$5,714,077	\$7,739,935	\$6,898,541

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Capital Projects

Project/Program Name: **Revenue Sharing**

FY 07 Adopted: \$1,000,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$1,000,000

Project Description: This allocation provides the local match for the County's participation in the State's revenue sharing program. Each year, the County has the opportunity to match up to \$500,000 of State funds on a 50/50 basis for transportation improvement projects. Due to the availability of extra State funding beginning in FY 06, the County has the opportunity to match up to \$1,000,000 for transportation improvement projects. The County recently leveraged State funds for preliminary engineering and construction for projects on Routes 7, 28 and Route 643 using this program. The revenue sharing program continues to remain an important funding source for the construction of surface transportation projects in the County.

Project/Program Name: **Revenue Sharing Supplement**

FY 07 Adopted: \$100,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$100,000

Project Description: At the end of each fiscal year, the State provides an additional round of revenue sharing funds that were not claimed in the first round. These funds are available at the same 50/50 match as the regular Revenue Sharing Program. The County has successfully used these funds over the past several years to assist in construction projects, most recently for the Route 28 PPTA project.

Project/Program Name: **Town of Leesburg (20% supplement tied to revenue projections)**

FY 07 Adopted: \$1,040,000 (\$2,295,000 requested)

FY 08 Provisional: \$1,080,000

Project Description: The Local Gasoline Tax Fund Policy stipulates that 20% of projected annual revenues be distributed to the Town of Leesburg for significant transportation projects. This annual 20% percent allocation has been designated by the Town for the Sycolin Road widening project, which has been allocated \$5.5 million through FY 06.

Project/Program Name: **Town of Purcellville (2% supplement tied to revenue projections)**

FY 07 Adopted: \$104,000 (\$131,000 requested)

FY 08 Provisional: \$108,000

Project Description: Beginning in FY 06, the Board of Supervisors designated to the Town of Purcellville a percentage of the County's gasoline tax revenues proportional to the Town's share of the County's population. As a result, the County will allocate 2% of projected gasoline tax revenues to the Town to use for transportation projects at its discretion.

Project/Program Name: **Traffic Operations Contingency**

FY 07 Adopted: \$350,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$350,000

Project Description: The Board began designating funds for future traffic signal needs in FY 01. In both FY 01 and FY 02, the Board appropriated \$200,000 per year for this purpose, and added \$140,000 to replenish the contingency in mid-FY 01. The Board voted in FY 03 to increase the annual allocation to \$250,000, and continued funding at the existing level in FY 04 & FY 05. Staff recommended increasing the FY 06 contribution to \$350,000 in order to fund specific safety signage and pilot parking district projects proposed for gasoline tax funding by the Office of Transportation Services. The Transportation/Land Use Committee decided to maintain an annual contribution of \$350,000 to the account due to the need for discretionary funding for traffic signals, signage and safety studies that arise during the course of the year.

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Project/Program Name: **Bikeway and Pedestrian Facilities Contingency**

FY 07 Adopted: \$250,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$250,000

Project Description: The Board of Supervisors designated \$250,000 in FY 03 for the creation of a Bikeway and Pedestrian Facilities Contingency. This funding is used to cover the County's share of requested bikeway and pedestrian facility costs. Examples of projects that have been funded under this initiative include Algonkian Parkway, West Church Road, and South King Street.

Project/Program Name: **Leesburg Park & Ride Facility**

FY 07 Adopted: \$250,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$0

Project Description: The Transportation Committee considered a proposal at its November 8, 2004 meeting to construct a parking garage in the Leesburg area for the commuter bus program. The FY 06 Gasoline Tax budget included \$1,300,781 in funding towards the future construction of a surface parking facility and surrounding road and frontage improvements. The Transportation/Land Use Committee will allocate \$250,000 towards the project in FY 07 to pay for additional road and frontage improvements in the area surrounding the facility.

Project/Program Name: **Office of Transportation – NuMetrics Traffic Counters**

FY 07 Adopted: \$30,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$0

Project Description: The Office of Transportation Services has requested funding to acquire 24 traffic counting devices to conduct traffic studies on roads and major intersections throughout the County. The County's current inventory of 11 traffic counting devices, controlled by the Sheriff's Office, is not enough to handle the amount of requests being made for traffic counts. The acquisition of these devices will expand the County's ability to conduct traffic studies, while allowing the Office of Transportation Services to conduct in-house data transfers & analysis currently provided by the Sheriff. A total of \$30,000 is required in FY 07 to purchase 24 additional NuMetrics Traffic Counting devices.

Project/Program Name: **Spot Road Improvement Projects Account**

FY 07 Adopted: \$500,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$750,000

Project Description: During the course of the year, there are requests for road improvements and other construction work where funding has to be identified in order to complete a project. The Transportation/Land Use Committee set up a "Spot Road Improvement Project Account" in the FY 07/08 Gasoline Tax Fund budget to fund minor capital projects that arise during the course of the year. Examples of such projects include through traffic redirection, traffic calming projects, acquiring right-of-way, etc.

Project/Program Name: **Route 7 East Traffic Operations Improvement Project**

FY 07 Adopted: \$1,142,243

FY 08 Provisional: \$0

Project Description: In January of 2006, County staff was notified by NVTC that due to an error by the owner of a chain of gas stations in the region, some gasoline tax revenues were withheld from NVTC. The owner corrected the error and provided the delinquent gasoline tax payments to NVTC, of which Loudoun County received \$1,142,243 in gasoline tax payments. During the FY 07 Budget Worksessions, the Board of Supervisors voted 9-0 to recognize the payment of the back gasoline tax payments and appropriate the funds to the Route 7 East Traffic Operations Improvement project in FY 07.

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Transportation/Transit Projects

Project/Program Name: **Adaptive Recreation Transportation**

FY 07 Adopted: \$86,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$94,900

Project Description: During the FY 05 budget process, the Board of Supervisors appropriated \$59,000 from the Local Gasoline Tax Fund to replace local tax funding in the Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Services designated for summer camp transportation expenses for the Adaptive Recreation program. The department indicated that FY 07 transportation expenses will total \$86,000 and FY 08 expenses will total \$94,900 due to increased ridership and fuel costs.

Project/Program Name: **American Red Cross, Loudoun County Chapter**

FY 07 Adopted: \$98,619

FY 08 Provisional: \$113,412

Project Description: This allocation provides the difference between the cost of operating medical transport services for senior citizens and grant funding received under the Older Americans Act. The American Red Cross's Senior Transportation program provides senior citizens, age 60 and over, with assisted transportation to medical appointments, to pharmacies to pick up prescriptions, and other necessary errands. In FY 05, the program served 2,786 senior citizens with over 5,454 assisted trips to necessary appointments.

Project/Program Name: **Every Citizen Has an Opportunity (ECHO)**

FY 07 Adopted: \$25,400

FY 08 Provisional: \$26,500

Project Description: ECHO assists disabled persons with securing and maintaining integrated community-based employment. This funding supports part of the organization's transportation operational costs for transporting clients to their workplaces. As in previous years, the organization will continue to seek Federal Transit Administration grant funding.

Project/Program Name: **Loudoun County Commuter Bus Operations**

FY 07 Adopted: \$1,682,089

FY 08 Provisional: \$1,984,781

Project Description: This allocation continues funding for Loudoun County Commuter Bus operations. This service provides daily transportation for commuters to and from Arlington County and Washington, D.C. The FY 05 budget represented the first budget under which the commuter bus program operated according to its new business model, where a County-owned fleet is operated and maintained by a private contractor. The Commuter Bus system will acquire seven new busses in FY 07, expanding the fleet to 31 busses (27 busses in service, 4 in reserve) to start service into Arlington and Washington, DC from the Dulles South Corridor via the Dulles North Transit Center, and expand service from the West Falls Church Metro station to Leesburg. The funding allocation in FY 07/08 takes into account the requested fare increase authorized by the Board of Supervisors' at its November 15, 2005 Business Meeting. The commuter bus program is funded by a combination of fare box revenue, annual appropriations from the Gasoline Tax Fund and State Formula Aid. The Gasoline Tax allocation represents an estimated 28% operating subsidy.

Project/Program Name: **Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers**

FY 07 Adopted: \$35,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$40,000

Project Description: Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers is a volunteer organization that provides elderly residents and people with disabilities within Loudoun County with assisted transportation. Services include transportation to non-emergency medical appointments, prescription pick-ups, physical therapy, and cancer or dialysis treatments. In FY 05, LVC provided over 4,700 one-way trips to residents in need.

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Project/Program Name: **Leesburg Safety Shuttle**

FY 07 Adopted: \$15,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$15,000

Project Description:

Since FY 01, the Town of Leesburg has contracted with the Virginia Regional Transportation Association (VRTA) for the operation of a shuttle service on the Route 15 Bypass. The County agreed to participate in the service on a 50/50 cost-sharing basis. The Town requested that the County begin providing a 100% subsidy to the Town in FY 05. The Board of Supervisors accepted the Transportation Committee's recommendation to continue the County's current practice of providing 50% support, equivalent to \$15,000 in FY 07 and in FY 08.

Project/Program Name: **Virginia Regional Transportation Association (VRTA)**

FY 07 Adopted: \$694,711

FY 08 Provisional: \$642,948

Project Description:

Formerly known as the Loudoun County Transportation Association, VRTA is a public transportation system that serves County residents using a combination of demand/response and fixed route services. VRTA's operations in Loudoun County include daily transportation services in Leesburg, Ashburn, Sterling/Countryside, the 7 to 7 on 7 Service, as well as "On Demand" services throughout the County. VRTA introduced its first fixed route bus service in Leesburg in January 2001, and began service along Route 7 in 2002. Gasoline Tax funds have been provided to VRTA since FY 91. Beginning in FY 06, reduced State funding has raised VRTA's local gasoline tax subsidy to 32% of total operating costs for its routes currently in service. The FY 08 provisional allocation represents the staff recommendation for funding.

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Administrative Projects

Project/Program Name: **Commuter Bus Promotion and Advertising**

FY 07 Adopted: \$10,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$10,000

Project Description: The policy guidelines for the distribution of these funds are established by the Loudoun Citizens Commuter Bus Advisory Board (CBAB). The purpose of this allocation is to provide a fund for the Loudoun County Commuter Bus Service to advertise its services to the public. The County has made use of this allocation in recent years to leverage Federal grant funding promoting public awareness of transit alternatives.

Project/Program Name: **Rideshare Program Match**

FY 07 Adopted: \$54,800

FY 08 Provisional: \$59,000

Project Description: Local Gasoline Tax funding for the Rideshare program has been an element of the budget since FY 90. This matching program leverages State funds on an 80/20 ratio, with the State providing 80% of the program costs. The Rideshare program provides personal assistance to commuters interested in car/van pooling and commuter transit services, and advocates the benefits of ridesharing services through advertisements and promotional events.

Project/Program Name: **Dulles Area Transportation Association (DATA)**

FY 07 Adopted: \$6,000

FY 08 Provisional: \$6,000

Project Description: Loudoun County is a member of the Dulles Area Transportation Association, which is a transportation management association operating in the Dulles Airport/Route 28 employment center. DATA assesses transportation needs and issues, formulates strategies to meet those needs, and provides a forum within which all members can work cooperatively to formulate policies, plans, and programs for the effective administration of transportation operations within the area. Membership consists of government and business organizations. Annual dues have been funded from the Local Gasoline Tax Fund since FY 92.

Project/Program Name: **NVTC Administrative Costs**

FY 07 Adopted: \$16,073

FY 08 Provisional: \$18,000

Project Description: The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission receives, invests, and disburses Loudoun County's share of local Gasoline Tax funds. This item represents the administrative cost for this service.